

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Knappe

Serial No. 09/426,931

Filed October 22, 1999

SPREADING LAYERS, WETTING
AGENTS FOR THEIR PRODUCTION
AND THEIR USE IN TEST STRIPSBefore the Examiner
CrossGroup Art Unit
1743

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
SUBMITTED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1)

Commissioner for Patents
 PO Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant wishes to bring to the attention of the Examiner the patents, publications, and/or other information listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 (modified). Copies of cited items are enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b).

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
<u>January 9 2004</u> (Date of Deposit)	
James B. Myers, Jr.	
Name of Registered Representative	
<u>James B. Myers Jr.</u> Signature	
<u>January 9 2004</u> Date of Signature	

This statement is being submitted after the filing of the application and after receipt of the First Office Action, but before the mailing of an action closing prosecution of the application. Each item cited herein in the attached PTO Form 1449 was first cited in a communication in a counterpart international application not more than 3 months prior to the submission of this Statement.

A check for the statutory fee of \$180.00 is enclosed. However, should any extra fees be required, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
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<p>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>				<i>Complete if Known</i>			
				Application Number		09/426,931	
				Filing Date		October 22, 1999	
				First Named Inventor		Knappe	
				Group Art Unit		1743	
				Examiner Name		Cross	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket No.	7404-524		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ²
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	12	DE 27 29 283	02-15-1979			
	13	DE 27 52 352	06-01-1978			
	14	DE 30 42 857	05-21-1981			
	15	EP 0 109 012	05-23-1984			✓
	16	EP 0 821 233	01-28-1998			
	17	EP 0 985 930	03-15-2000			✓
	18	WO 97/18036	05-22-1997			✓

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.